



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Division of Health Care Finance and Policy
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. c.118G and in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, as amended, a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, July 14, 2009, at 10:00 AM at the Division of Health Care Finance and Policy ("Division"), Two Boylston Street, 5th floor, Boston, MA relative to the adoption of amendments to:

114.3 CMR 6.00: Rates of Payment for Mental Health Services Provided in Community Health Centers and Mental Health Centers

The proposed amendments change the payment method effective July 1, 2009 for Emergency Services Program (ESP) services provided by community mental health centers operated by the Department of Mental Health. ESP services are behavioral health services offered 24 hours per day, seven days a week, to individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis. Services include crisis assessment, short-term counseling, crisis stabilization, medication evaluation, and referral. The proposed amendments would permit state-operated centers to be paid at reasonable costs for ESP services, in accordance with federal rules.

It is estimated that aggregate annual MassHealth expenditures will increase by \$298,920 as a result of these amendments. There is no fiscal impact on cities and towns.

Interested parties are encouraged to submit comments on these amendments. All persons desiring to be heard on this matter are hereby notified to appear at the designated time and place. Persons intending to speak will be afforded an early opportunity to testify if the Division receives notice by 5:00 pm on Monday, July 13, 2009. All others will be heard subsequently. Written comments may be sent to the Division at Two Boylston Street, 5th floor, Boston, MA 02116.

Copies of the regulation are available for inspection and/or purchase at the Division, Two Boylston Street, 5th floor, Boston, MA 02116 or you can access them free of charge in the Regulations section of the Division's web site located at www.mass.gov/dhcfp.